



Department of Justice

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Eastern District of California

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STOCKTON MAN CONVICTED OF STEALING CHECKS FROM CHRISTMAS CARDS AND POSSESSION OF FALSE IDENTIFICATION

SACRAMENTO, Calif.—Acting United States Attorney Lawrence G. Brown announced today that DANIEL JAMES MEDINA, 19, of Stockton, Calif., pleaded guilty today before United States District Judge Morrison C. England to theft of United States mail and to possession of counterfeit identification.

This case is the product of extensive investigation by the U. S. Postal Inspection Service.

According to Assistant United States Attorney Michelle Rodriguez, who is prosecuting the case, MEDINA admitted that, on December 18, 2008, he stole outgoing U.S. Mail, specifically Christmas cards containing gift checks, in the San Joaquin County area. MEDINA also admitted that, on December 19, 2008, he possessed stolen checks, additional stolen U.S. Mail, and a counterfeit driver's license, bearing his own photo but another person's California driver's license number. He intended to use the counterfeit identification to cash checks by fraud. As part of his plea agreement, he has agreed to pay restitution for his theft. MEDINA was on California state probation when he committed his federal offenses.

MEDINA is scheduled to be sentenced for his offenses on May 28, 2009. The maximum penalty he faces is 20 years in prison, a three-year term of supervised release, and a fine of up to \$500,000. The actual sentence, however, will be determined at the discretion of the court after consideration of the Federal Sentencing Guidelines, which take into account a number of variables and any applicable statutory sentencing factors.

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